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RURAL DISTRICT OF MORPETH.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR 1944.



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1944.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Morpeth Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health concerning the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District in 1944.

This report is in rather more detail than those of recent years as the ban imposed for security reasons on the publication of figures of population etc. has now been removed. Apart from this, the report follows the same lines as all those produced during the war years and there are no exceptional circumstances or events of outstanding importance to report.

The figures of birth and death rates are satisfactory as the former shows a slight increase and is in excess of the average for the country as a whole, while the latter shows a slight decrease and is markedly lower than the average for England and Wales. A less satisfactory feature is the Infantile Mortality rate which is almost double that of last year when a very low rate was recorded.

A heavy programme will face the Rural District Council in the post-war years in connection with Housing, Re-housing, improvement of existing houses, and the provision of improved water-supplies and drainage. Plans for many of these projects have already been prepared or are in process of preparation and it is hoped that before long a start may be made, at least, with the housing programme which is a matter of great urgency.

I must now express my gratitude to the Members of the Council for the consideration which they have extended to me and for the support and assistance I have received from the staffs of the Health and other departments of the Council without which the difficult task of carrying on single-handed after the death of your late Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Angus, might well have proved impossible.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.B. MCGREGOR,

Medical Officer of Health,  
Rural District of Morpeth.

October 1945.



RURAL DISTRICT OF MORPETH.

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Catherine B. McGregor,  
M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary )  
Housing ) Inspector.  
Meat )

Mr. T.T. Watson.  
R.S.I. & S.I.J.B. Certs.  
Meat Inspectors Certs.

Sanitary Surveyor

Mr. J. Coates,  
P.S.I. & S.I.J.B. Certs.  
Meat Inspectors Certs  
as from 1st October, 1944.

Offices of the R.D.C.

Dacre Street, Morpeth.

Telephone

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RURAL DISTRICT OF MORPETH.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.  
FOR 1944.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area, in acres - 79, 193.

Registrar General's estimate of  
Resident population mid 1944 - 15,740.

Rateable value - £67,490.

One penny rate produces - £265.

Number of inhabited houses(end of 1944) - 4,296

Vital Statistics.

Births:-

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate .....	279	142	137
Illegitimate.....	12	6	6
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population - 18.48			

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate .....	11	7	4
Illegitimate.....	1	1	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 39.6			

Deaths:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	155	77	78
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population - 9.84			

Deaths from puerperal causes:- (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list):-

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</u>
No.29 Puerperal sepsis.....	-	-
No.30 Other maternal causes..	1	3.3

Death Rate of infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births .....	54.98
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	53.76
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births....	83.33

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	24
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....	1

The Registrar General supplies the following:-

CAUSES OF DEATHS 1944.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Typhoid & paratyphoid fevers.	-	-
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever.	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	1
5. Diphtheria.	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of resp: sys:	2	2
7. Other forms of tuberculosis.	2	1
8. Syphilitic diseases.	-	-
9. Influenza.	-	-
10. Measles.	-	-
11. Ac: polio-myel: and polio-enceph:	-	-
12. Acute inf: enceph:	-	-
13. Cancer of buc: cav: & oesoph:(M), uterus (F)	-	2
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum.	-	6
15. Cancer of breast.	-	1
16. Cancer of all other sites.	9	6
17. Diabetes.	-	-
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	10	14
19. Heart disease.	17	22
20. Other dis: of circ. system.	1	1
21. Bronchitis.	2	1
22. Pneumonia.	3	4
23. Other resp: dis:	1	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.	-	-
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years.	1	-
26. Appendicitis.	-	-
27. Other digve. dis:	4	-
28. Nephritis.	3	1
29. Puer: & post-abortion: sepsis.	-	-
30. Other maternal causes.	-	1
31. Premature birth.	2	1
32. Con. mal: birth inj: infant: dis:	3	2
33. Suicide.	-	-
34. Road traffic acc:	-	2
35. Other violent causes.	7	1
36. All other causes.	10	8
Total causes .....	<u>77</u>	<u>78</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths of infants (Legitimate .....	7	8
under 1 year. (Illegitimate .....	-	1
Totals,	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>

# INFANTILE MORTALITY - 1944.

Causes of death.	Und 1 wk	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	Total under 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	Total under 1 yr.
Congenital abnormality	1	2	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	4
Prematurity	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	4
Eczema	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Accident	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Gastro-enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	2	2	1	-	5	5	1	5	-	16

## SECTION B.

### General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities are obtained at the County Laboratory, Newburn. The extent to which the facilities have been utilized is shown below.

Sent in by	Specimen.	Pos.	Neg.
C.C.T.O.	Sputa for tubercle.	3	10
Medical Practitioners.	do	2	33
M.O.H.	Swabs for C.diphtheriae.	2	20
Medical Practitioners.	do.	11	67
Medical Practitioners.	Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococcus.	16	51
Medical Practitioners.	Faeces for Organisms.	2 (dysentery)	5
Medical Practitioners.	Pus for organisms.	-	1
Medical Practitioners.	Blood for Widal.	1	3

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

These services remain as before.

### NURSING IN THE HOME.

No change. Number of district nurses - 10, and stationed as previously reported.

### HOSPITALS.

None, except St. Andrew's Colony, an institution belonging to the Committee for Mental Deficiency of the M.C.C.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### WATER.

The main sources of water supplies to the various communities and villages in the district remain as before.

The Eastern part of the district is chiefly industrial and is supplied by water purchased in bulk from other authorities and coming from waterworks.

The Western part of the district is mainly agricultural, and as in all sparsely populated rural communities the problem of obtaining adequate and wholesome supplies of water for all inhabitants is one of great difficulty and complexity. At present there are many separate supplies owned by different persons and the larger portion of the population obtained water from wells and springs. Many of these sources are liable to gross contamination and the water derived from them is unsuitable for domestic purposes and is, moreover, dependent on the vagaries of the weather so that after a series of dry seasons, such as we have had in recent years, certain sources dry up altogether.

This is a highly unsatisfactory state of affairs and towards the end of the year a survey was begun at the instigation of the Ministry of Health with a view to discovering methods of, and laying plans for, providing the outlying rural communities with suitable and wholesome supplies of water. Such provision will be a great undertaking and one which cannot be completed in a short time, but it is a highly desirable project which should be proceeded with as speedily and efficiently as possible. An adequate and wholesome water supply should be within the reach of all households and is of great importance in the maintenance of Public Health.

It is further evident that the availability of a pure and abundant water supply is closely connected with the production of clean milk since the dairy farmer who is denied such a supply is gravely handicapped in his efforts to produce pure and wholesome milk, which, in its turn, is of vital importance in maintaining the health of the community and in promoting the growth and health of children.

Forty three samples of water have been taken and submitted to the County Laboratory, High Street, Newburn, for bacteriological examination.

The bacteriological results are attached.

Date.	Place of Collection.	No. of Coli onies per ml.		Coli Aerogenes per 100 ml.
		37°C	22°C	
18/ 1/44	Tap, West Cottages, Gladstone Buildings	-	-	Nil
18/ 1/44	Collecting Chamber, " "	-	-	18
15/ 2/44	Standpipe, Cambo.	-	-	Nil
15/ 2/44	Tap, Meldon Lodge, Morpeth.	-	-	Nil
7/ 3/44	Standpipe, nr. Bridge End, West Thirston.	-	-	1
7/ 3/44	Tap, Thirston Shaw Farm, Felton.	-	-	Nil
14/ 3/44	Tap, Claokroom, Netherwitton School.	-	-	Nil.
14/ 3/44	Standpipe, roadside, Longwitton Village	-	-	Nil
14/ 3/44	House tap, Hilltop, Longwitton.	-	-	Nil
14/ 3/44	Overflow from spring collecting chamber, Hill End Farm, Longwitton.	-	-	Nil.
28/ 3/44	Collecting Chamber, Windmill, Gladstone's Buildings, Longhorsley.	-	-	90
4/ 4/44	Feed Pipe, Collecting chamber, Gladstone B'dgs.	-	-	180 x
4/ 4/44	Standpipe, nr. School, Longhorsley Village.	-	-	50
18/ 4/44	Standpipe, nr. School, Longhorsley.	-	-	14
18/ 4/44	Source of Longhorsley water supply.	-	-	1
25/ 4/44	Standpipe, nr. School, Longhorsley.	-	-	1
2/ 5/44	Standpipe, nr. School, Longhorsley.	-	-	Nil
2/ 5/44	Collecting chamber, Windmill, Gladstone's Buildings, Longhorsley.	-	-	13
23/ 5/44	Well, Bungalow, Fairmoor, Morpeth.	-	-	Nil
23/ 5/44	Well, Woodside, Tranwell.	-	-	Nil
6/ 6/44	Well, "The Kennels", Longhirst.	-	-	17
6/ 6/44	Pump over well, Longhirst Station.	-	-	Nil
27/ 6/44	Standpipe, 1 Stone Row, No. Broomhill.	-	-	Nil
27/ 6/44	Standpipe, 20, Coronation Terr. "	-	-	Nil
3/ 7/44	Proposed supply, spring, Low Hedley Wood.	-	-	1
25/ 7/44	Tap, School House, Meldon	-	-	Nil
25/ 7/44	Tap, Meldon Hall Lodge.	-	-	35
25/ 7/44	Standpipe, West end, Chevington Crescent	-	-	17
25/ 7/44	Tap, Dairy, East Fenrother Farm, Longhorsley-	-	-	5
27/ 9/44	Well, Middleton Village, Morpeth.	-	-	30
27/ 9/44	Tap, Hotel, Middleton Village, Morpeth.	-	-	180 x
24/10/44	Tap, West Throphill Farm House, Mitford.	-	-	8
24/10/44	Meldon Hall.	-	-	180 x
30/10/44	Well, Gamekeeper's House, Mitford.	-	-	7
30/10/44	Tap, Abbey Hill, Mitford.	-	-	Nil
1/11/44	Tap, Netherwitton Village.	-	-	Nil
1/11/44	Tap, Shelley Farm, Netherwitton.	-	-	1
7/11/44	Standpipe, Cambo, Morpeth.	-	-	35
7/11/44	Tap, Wellington Cottages, Morpeth.	-	-	50
7/11/44	Tap, Hartburn School, Morpeth.	-	-	25
7/11/44	Standpipe, Scots Gap, Corner Cottages.	-	-	Nil
14/11/45	Well, Wood Supply, Meldon.	-	-	160
14/11/45	Tillage Field Supply, Meldon.	-	-	180 x

## Water Supplies; New services.

Water service pipes relaid to 15 and 16, Liddell Terrace, Ferneybeds.  
Water service pipes relaid to 6 and 7, Palmer Terrace, Ferneybeds.  
Water supply improved in quantity to Hebron Village.  
New water service pipe renewed, Dalziel's Cottage, Longhorsley.  
New deep borehole sunk, E. Fenrother to supply dairy farm and 3 houses.  
Provision of new water scheme by Eshott Estates, Ltd., to replace springs, rams, etc. Deep borehole and gravity supply to 26 houses and four large dairy farms.  
Main Council supply to three Cottages, Longhirst Station.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE,

The following works have been undertaken during the year:-

New Drainage Bridge End Cottage, Thirston.  
New settling tank, Stobswood, Smallholdings,  
New drainage throughout High Highlaws dairy farm, and three houses.  
New drainage and septic tank, Hemelspeth Farm, Thirston (2 houses)  
Part drainage renewed, Infant School, Red Row.  
Extension of drainage, Whinney Crook.  
New drainage, Cottage, Front Street, Longhorsley.  
New drainage and septic tank, West Thirston - (Gray)  
New drainage and septic tank, West Thirston - (Richardson)  
New drainage and septic tank, East Fenrother Farm (three houses).  
(Dairy Farm)  
New drainage, septic tank and filter, Thirston Shaw Dairy Farm,  
(2 houses)  
New drainage, septic tank and filter, Middle Fenrother, (three houses)  
New drainage and septic tank, West Chevington Farm.  
New drainage and enlarged septic tank, East Stobswood Farm, (3 houses)  
New drainage and septic tank, Stanton Town Head Bungalow.  
New drainage and septic tank, Ulgham Grange Villa.  
New drainage from boys' convenience Tritlington School.  
New drainage and septic tank, Linden Lane.  
Extension of drainage, Longhirst Station Cottages.  
Sewer at Broomhill delivering into open ditch diverted into main  
sewerage system (7 houses and dairy farmstead)  
New drainage and septic tank, Butterwell Farm.  
Provision of Ladies conveniences, Lynemouth Hotel.

## Alterations and Improvements.

Slop sinks provided, 3 houses, Longhirst Station.  
Conversion of two cottages to one houses at West Chevington Farm and  
reconditioning of the resultant dwelling.  
New dairy and bottle washery, Straight Mile.  
Improvements to byres, new dairy and provision of steam steriliser,  
Ulgham Grange Villa.  
Improvements to dairy and provision of steam steriliser, Thirston Shaw  
Farm.  
Installation of bath and slop sink, Whinney Crook.  
Renewal of kitchen range, Woodside Farm, Red Row.  
do. Nurses' Home, Longhorsley.  
do. Paxton Dene Farm Cottage.

Addition of scullery to Bungalow, Stanton Town Head.  
 Provision of bathroom and hot water to Nurses' hom, Thirston.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Conversions to the Water Carriage system took place at:-

East Fenrother Farm house...	...	1
West Chevington Farm Steward's house		1
"Beaumont Villa", Straight Mile...		1
East End Cottage, Longhorsley.	...	1
Bridge End Cottage, Thirston.	...	1
Martins Bank Houses, Red Row.	...	2
Front Street, Lonhorsley.....	...	1
Norwoods Farm, Ulgham,.	....	3
West Thirston (Richardson)...	...	1
Linden Lane.	....	1
Homelspeth Farm, Thirston	...	2
Hetherington's, Red Row.	...	1
Swarland Terrace, Red Row (Coates)		1
1 and 2 Front Street, Ellington...		2
Merton House, Ellington.	...	1
Grey, West Thirston.....	...	1
Togston Terrace Co-op...	...	1
1 Lambert Terrace, Ferneybeds.	...	1
East Stobswood Farm.....	...	3.
Fawdon House, Longhirst.	...	2
South Linton Farm. ....	...	3
Gairs House, Ellington Village....		1
1, 2, 3, 4, East View, Ellington..		4
3 and 4 Front Street, Ellington....		2
Ferndale , Ellington....	...	1
Hawthorn Bungalow, Linton	...	1
West and South View, Ellington	...	2
Mitchell's Hepscott .....	...	1
Lintonview, Ellington...	...	1
The Cottage, Ellington..	...	1
Northside, Ellington	...	1
Howick Villa, Ellington.	...	1
Old Moor...	....	1
Total		<u>48</u>

### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The public cleansing in the Parishes of West and East Chevington, Lynemouth, Ellington, and Hepscott is carried out with direct labour.

The scavenging in the parishes of Pegswood, Longhirst, Ulgham, Widdrington, Cresswell, and Longhorsley is carried out by contract.

No. of ash pits abolished.. 30

No. of pail closets renewed. 2

### SHOPS.

No action has been found necessary.

## CAMPING SITES.

No change from previous report.

## MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

- (1) Licences granted to station movable dwellings, etc..... 15
- (2) Licences renewed to station movable dwellings, etc..... 13

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints or nuisance arising from the pollution of the atmosphere from smoke have been received or detected during the year.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no (a) public or (b) privately owned swimming baths within the district.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

- (1) Number of private houses found to be infested during the year.1.
- (2) Number of council houses found to be infested during the year.Nil.

The method employed for disinfecting houses is by means of "Zaldecide" as a spray and "Sulphur Dioxide".

## RATS AND MICE(DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Scavenging Tips, Salvage Depot, Pegswood Sewerage Works and the Lynemouth Pumping Station have, during the year, received the attention of a professional rat catcher who visits periodically.

The situation of the tips is:- Broomhill 2; Widdrington 1; Ulgham 1; Longhirst 1; Pegswood 1; Lynemouth 1; and Longhorsley 1.

The Central Salvage Depot is at Pegswood.

## SCHOOLS.

There are 18 schools and all have a sufficient water supply except Cambo, where the water from time to time becomes rather scarce.

Ten schools have the water carriage system with a sufficiency of water.

## SECTION D.

### HOUSING

Number of houses erected during the year 1944 -

- (a) By Local Authorities (with State Assistance) ..... Nil
- (b) By other Bodies or Persons (Unaided)..... Nil

### HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS 1926 and 1931 AND AMENDMENT ACT 1938.

The following houses were reconditioned:-

Farm Cottages, East Stobswood.....	2
do. Fawdon House, Longhirst.....	2
do. South Linton.....	3
do. Nunriding Hall, Mitford.....	2

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Cowkeepers (registered) in the District..... 92  
Approximate number of cows kept ..... 1,800

Attached is set out <sup>a</sup>in comprehensive summary of the results of bacteriological and biological reports of samples of milk displayed in various categories. In order to prevent duplication in the taking of samples, and exchange of information between the Sanitary Departments of the five constituent authorities respecting sampling has been carried out.

- A. Samples of milk produced within the district and taken by the Sanitary Inspectors of the M.R.D.C.

#### Accredited:

2 samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.  
2 samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.  
1 sample was found to be contaminated with the Tubercle Bacilli.  
None of the above samples was tested for B. coli.

#### Non-accredited or Undesignated:

8 samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.  
5 samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.  
1 sample was found to be contaminated with the Tubercle Bacilli.  
None of the above samples was tested for B.coli.

- B. Samples of milk produced outwith the district, retailed in M.R.D. and taken by the Sanitary Inspectors of the M.R.D.C.

Accredited:

2 samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.  
Neither sample was tested for B.coli.

- C. Samples of milk produced within the M.R.D. but sampled by Sanitary Inspectors of another L.A. in which the milk was distributed.

Tuberculin Tested:

5 samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test  
1 sample failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.  
None of the above samples was tested for B.coli.

Accredited:

6 samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.  
3 samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.  
5 samples were found to be contaminated with Tubercle Bacilli.  
None of the above samples was tested for B. coli.  
5 samples were tested for T.B. only.  
All 14 samples were tested for T.B.

Non-accredited or Undesignated:

11 samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.  
2 samples failed both the Methylene Blue and B.coli Tests.  
10 samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test only.  
6 samples were tested for T.B. only (1 positive, 5 negative).  
1 sample was tested for B.coli only (failed).  
2 samples were found to be contaminated with Tubercle Bacilli.  
  
13 samples in all were tested for T.B.  
6 samples were tested for both Methylene Blue & B. coli.  
1 sample was tested for B.coli only.

Nine cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order 1938 and subsequently the milk from the herds was certified non-tuberculous.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

In accordance with the Ministry's Circular No.2376 dealing with mutual assistance to be observed by Local Authorities your Inspectors relieved the Meat Inspectors at Bedlington and the Borough of Morpeth during the latter's absence on annual leave.

The following foods were surrendered in the Morpeth Rural District to the Council's Meat Inspectors:-

## Unsound Food.

## Surrendered.

## Seized.

Canned Meat	135 lbs.	Nil
Canned fruit & jam	31 lbs.	??
Dried fruits	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	??
Canned milk	210 tins.	??
Beef	30 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	??
Bacon	951 lbs.	??
Ham	160 lbs.	??
Pork	12 lbs.	??
Canned Vege tables	23 tins.	??
Vegetables	2 lbs.	??
Tinned Fish	26 tins.	??
Fish	126 lbs.	??
Pickles	12 lbs.	??
Sauces	3 btls.	??
Sauces	48 tins.	??
Sauces	351 lbs.	??
Bread	44 lbs.	??
Oatmeal	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	??
Sugar	896 lbs.	??
Syrup	4 lbs.	??
Soups	6 tins.	??
Pasties, scones, cakes.	688	??
Butter	25 lbs.	??
Soda-bicard.	6 lbs.	??
Cheese	28 lbs.	??
Margarine	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	??
Honey	1 lb.	??
Pudding Mixture	118 tins.	??
Pudding mixture	40 pkts.	??
Biscuits	8 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	??
Shredded Wheat	2 pkts.	??
Shredded Suet	86 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	??
Oats	9 lbs.	??

# SECTION F.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease was provided throughout the year at the Ashington Unit of the South East Northumberland Joint Hospital Board, of which the Rural District Council is a constituent.

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	18	9	-
Diphtheria	8	7	-
Pneumonia	1	Unknown	7
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	-	-
Measles	35	-	-
Whooping Cough	17	-	1

TABLE SHOWING ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

Disease.	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over	Total.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	5	5	4	2	-	1	-	18
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	1	1	-	-	-	8
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	-	-	1	3	2	17	8	4	-	-	-	-	35
Whooping Cough	2	5	-	1	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	17

### Enteric Fevers.

No case of Typhoid or Paratyphoid fever was notified during the year.

### Measles.

There was a reduction in the number of measles notified from 76 to 35 as compared with 1943. There were no deaths.

### Whooping Cough.

There was a slight increase in the number of cases of whooping cough notified, there being 17 during the year. There was one death.

### Diphtheria.

There were 8 cases of diphtheria notified during the year and of these 2 were known to have been immunised, while 6 had not been so treated. Seven of the cases were removed to hospital and there were no deaths.

In addition three carriers were discovered and these were also removed to hospital.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the months of May and June visits were paid to schools at Mitford, Hartburn, Cambo, Netherwitton and Felton.

The following table shows the immunisation state of the pre-school and school populations at 31st December, 1944.

Under 5 years .....	73.53%
5 - 15 years .....	84.05%

In addition 21 children received the course of treatment from private doctors under the Council's scheme.

Immunisation of pre-school children is carried out at clinics established by the Welfare Authority, i.e. the Northumberland County Council.

### Defence (General) Regulations 1939, Scabies Order, 1941, No.33A.

The incidence of scabies showed a marked decrease, the number of cases treated being roughly half of those treated in the previous year, 50 cases as compared with 105. Patients suffering from "Scabies & Lice" number 14 as compared with 31, while only one patient was treated who suffered from "Lice Only".

It will thus be seen that scabies was undoubtedly less prevalent, but in my opinion it is doubtful if the decrease in the incidence of lice infestation has been as great as these figures would suggest. It should be remembered that the majority of patients coming to the cleansing station for treatment come only because they have scabies and the presence of lice is detected on routine examination. Consequently when the total number of cases examined decreases the number of those with lice infestation also decreases.

The cleansing station at Ashington continued to function during the year and clinics at which your Medical Officer attended were held twice weekly.

The following table shows the number of persons from Morpeth Rural District who were treated according to their ages and conditions from which they suffered.

	<u>Scabies Only.</u>		<u>Scabies &amp; Lice.</u>		<u>Lice Only.</u>		<u>Scabies not discovered</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Over 16 yrs.	4	12	-	3	-	-	1	5
5 - 16 yrs.	15	9	1	9	-	-	-	-
Under 5 yrs.	8	2	1	-	1	-	1	-
	<u>27</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>

Also appended is a table showing the total numbers treated from all the five districts included in the No.2 Medical Area.

	<u>Scabies Only.</u>		<u>Scabies &amp; Lice.</u>		<u>Lice Only.</u>		<u>Scabies not discovered</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Over 16 yrs.	56	124	-	29	-	10	11	52
5 - 16 yrs.	144	112	33	67	2	15	17	12
Under 5 yrs.	43	36	5	11	1	-	7	10
	<u>243</u>	<u>272</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>74</u>

### TUBERCULOSIS

#### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1944.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
5-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
15-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
25-	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
35-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths ... 3  
 Notified Tuberculosis Deaths ..... 5  
 Total Tuberculosis Deaths ..... 8

# CANCER MORTALITY DURING 1944.

	Males						Females					
	30	40	45	55	65	Total.	30	40	45	55	65	Total.
Bronchi	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colon	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	2
Pancreas	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maxillary Antrum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Stomach	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	4	7
Liver	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Oesophagus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Kidney	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Rectum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Skin	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	1	-	-	6	7	-	1	-	5	10	16

Sarcoma - glands, 1 male 52 yrs.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1944. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales.	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adm. County
*Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :-				
Live Births	17.6 /	20.3	20.9	15.0
Still "	0.50 /	0.64	0.61	0.42
Deaths:-				
All Causes	11.6 /	13.7	12.4	15.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01
Influenza	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.08
Smallpox	0.00	-	-	-
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:-				
Deaths under 1 Year of Age	46 /	52	44	61

cont.

	England and Wales	126 C.Bs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adm. County
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of Age	4.8	7.3	4.4	10.1

\* A dash (-) signifies that there were no deaths  
 / Per 1,000 related births  
 / Rates per 1,000 Total population

Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-

Notifications:-

Typhoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	2.40	2.41	2.67	1.57
Whooping Cough	2.49	2.49	2.29	2.90
Diphtheria	0.58	0.67	0.69	0.31
Erysipelas	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.37
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	4.16	4.51	3.94	2.98
Pneumonia	0.97	1.13	0.82	0.93

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still):- (a) Notifications :-

Puerperal Fever )	10.34	13.13	9.25	3.61
Puerperal Pyrexia )				/ 14.14

(b) Maternal Mortality - England and Wales :-

No.140 Abortion with Sepsis	No.141 Abortion without Sepsis	No.147 Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142-6 148-150 Other
0.31	0.09	0.28	1.25

Abortion: Mortality per million women aged 15-45  
 - England and Wales :-

No. 140 With Sepsis	No. 141 Without Sepsis
25	7

/ Including Puerperal fever.

